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# <sup>②</sup>公開特許公報(A)

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S.T.I.C. Translations Branch

明 福 1

范明 办名符 燃料摄合体

#### 特許請求の朝臨

1.水ロッドを有する額水冷却型原子が用燃料業合体において、炉心内に装荷された燃料集合体を炉心から取り出すことなく、燃料排用額の冷却水の流れる流路での冷却水洗量を開業可能とする水口ッドを設けたことを特徴とする燃料集合体。

2. 冷却材流量を調整する方法として、水ロツドの下端の値状の液量調整部をもうけ、水ロツドと流量調整部をバネと下部燃料支持部材を貫達して流動し、さらに水ロツドの上部には十字型をなる流動し、前記水ロツド及び流量解整部を上下に移動することにより、冷却材流量を調整することを特許とする第1項記載の燃料集合体。

#### 発明の詳細な説明

#### (発明の利用分野)

本発明は、程水冷却型原子が燃料集合体に係り、 特に燃料洗路部の冷却水流量を興整することによ り、燃料液路部の版体対点気の比を燃料の燃煙 間、機制において変化させることによる燃料経済 性の向上に好適な燃料集合体に調する。

#### (発明の背景)

第4回は、沸騰水型原子炉用の従来の燃料集合体の全体構成を示す説明四、第2回は、その下部の実部切欠断面図で、1は燃料標、2は水ロッド、3は下部タイプレイト、4は燃料標下部機栓、5は水ロッド下部機栓、6は水ロッドでの冷却水流したが、6は水ロッドでが増上である。7は水ロッド2の冷却水出口を示しており、燃料練1及び水ロッド2はそれぞれ燃料炉下部増生を通して下部タイプレート3に立つされている。

この燃料集合体の水口ツド2の冷却水流入口 6 及び冷却水流出口 7 は、水口ツド2内に蒸気ボイドが発生しない程度に冷却水が流入するような大きさの孔から構成されている。

このような沸騰水型原子炉を何にとると、輸方 肉出力分布は、ポイド率(蒸気の占める体積比) が上部に行くほど高くなる為に、炉心上部に沿べ 却心下部における中性子の無化が進み(ポイド率が低く、中性子がより多く減速するため)、出力ピークの位置が却心下部に重む。又、却心断固でみた場合、出力分布は、パイパス部の減速材のため、燃料集合体周辺部では、熱中性子密度が高くなり、このため出力ピークは、燃料集合体の関辺部の燃料等において生じる。

現在のが心設計においては、 編昇健全性の確保 及び、プラント利用率向上の観点から、 燃料集合 体内での、出力ピークをできるだけ低下させる設 計が閉じられている。 燃料集合体層辺部での出力 ピークを抑えるためには、中央部の出力を上げる ことが必要であり、このために燃料集合体中央部 に、燃料を入れないで、 減速材のみ通すロッド即 ち水ロッドを用いている。

しかしながら、近年の燃料の技術開発の結果、 パリア燃料等のPCI (燃料-被覆管相互作用) 対策が開発されるに従い、今までのように、燃料 集合体内での出力分布平坦化は、特に必要がなく なり、輸出力密度に関しては、燃料の健全性が維

を目的とする水静脉神を採用している。加圧水炉 では、この水静脉用制御神を、燃焼初期において は、炉心に挿入し、水対ウラン比を減少させ、ス ベクトルシフト効果によりプルトニウム生成患を 高め、逆に、燃焼袋草では、炉心より引き抜いて、 水対ウラン比を増加させ、反応度を高める連転法 が考えられている。

例えば、移動水型原子炉では、原子炉道銀中に

特できる範囲内で上昇させることができる。この ような炉心では、新たな炉心設計が考えられる。

こい! つにスペクトルシフト温製法が考えられる。これは、炉小内の漏気水の割合をされば、炉小内の漏気水の割合をされるか、あるいは、冷却水の却要原子があることにより、減速材、及減速を繋がられる。)による中性子の譲渡を繋がるといれる。)にようの性子のでは、水が、冷却をできる。 はまり、中性子の中性子により、中性子の中性子により、がよことの結果、高エネルギー中性子により、がまたの結果、高エネルギー中性子により、がまたのは、高エネルギー中性子により、がまたのは、高エネルギー中性子により、がまたのは、高エネルギー中性子により、がまたのは、高エネルギーのでした。

電気ポイド率、冷却水割合を変化させる手段と しては、 炉心会沸量を増減させる方法、水ロツド 又は、 パイパス側域に充填材を挿入する方法等が 考えられている。

加圧水型原子がを何にとると、制御棒に、中性 子高吸収材を含まなくて、冷却水を排除すること

ボイドが発生し、高いポイド率で退転された燃料 集合体は、低いポイド車で選続された燃料集合体 よりも中性子スペクトルが硬化するためプルトニ ウムの蓄積が多くなる。この効果は高いポイド率 での燃焼期間に比例して増大する。

常述では、この点に着目し、燃料集合体構成材の一つである水ロッド内の蒸気ポイド車を制御することにより、燃料の燃焼初期においてはポイド車を大きくしプルトニウムの 著鞭を増大させ、燃焼期においてはポイド車をゼロとし中性子 減速材を増加させプルトニウムの 著獲の効果と相よって反応度を増加させ、燃料燃焼度増加が可能な燃料集合体とするものである。

以上のように、炉心内のポイド率を嵌化させて中性子スペクトルシフトを利用する発明としては、金流量を増減させる方法、パイパス領域の水を排除する方法、水ロツドの流量を変化させる方法がある。しかしながら、総共停制圏の冷却水の流れる流涌である機等機器のの冷却水流量を燃料集合体単位に変化させるものはない。

#### 〔 碧明の目的〕

1)

本発明は、軽水冷却型原子炉において、炉心内に装荷された燃料集合体を取り出すことなく、燃料機関間の冷却水の流れる流路での冷却水流量を開催可能とする水口ツドを設けることにより、中位チスペクトルシフト効果を増大させ、これによって燃料経済性の向上する燃料集合体を提供することを目的とするものである。

#### (発明の概要)

沸騰水型原子炉を何にとると、原子炉温配中にポイドが発生し、そのために、減速材による減速効果が低下し、中性子スペクトルが硬化する。よつて、高いポイド車で温転された燃料集合体は中性子の吸いポイド車で温転された燃料集合体よりも中性子の吸収反応が増加する。その結果、プルトニウムの増機が多くなる。この蓄積は、高いポイド車での燃機期間に比例して増大する。

そこで、燃料集合体の炉内装荷期間の内、前半 は、高いポイド率で燃焼させプルトニウムの生成

を思り破くために、各燃料集合が単位に冷却水の 流量を調整できる機能を持たせたものである。

#### (発明の実施例)

本発明の実施例を以下に示す。

第1 図に本発明の燃料集合体の全体線成(概念 図)を示す。第1 図において、1 は燃料等の存在 する冷却水の流れる滤路、2 は本発明の水ロツド、 3 は下部タイプレート、8 は燃料集合体に流入れた 活動を発量を調整する水ロツドに取付けられた 活量製造部、9 は水ロツドを上部タイプレートに がしつける弾力を与えるパネ、10 は下の が上に カートの燃料支持部、11 は上部タイプレート 12 は、水ロツドを上部タイプレートに 関定部である。

従来の燃料焦合体(第4回)では、燃料集合体の下部タイプレートに洗入した冷却水は常に一定の大きさで燃料控料器の沸略へ流れる。このため冷却水洗量の調整による中性子スペクトルシット 運転は、全知心洗量を変化させることによつて行われる。全知心洗量の変更は、一般にサイクル韓 の増大を保し、後半は、ポイド率を低下させることにより、生成されたプルトニウムによる反応度への寄与を利用し、原子炉の反応度を高め、燃焼度を増大させる塩温法が考えられる。これが、中性子スペクトルシフト効果である。

スペクトルシフト効果により反応度の増大を得るために、炉心全流量を変化させ、運転サイクルの前半において流量を低下させポイド車を高め、運転サイクルの後半において流量を増大させれている。この使来の方法によれば、個々の燃料集合体毎に相当する別心滞在期間中、運転サイクルの後半に相当する期間中においては、ポイド率は低下した運転となるため、プルトニウムの生成とる効率が低下する。

反応度を意味する無限増倍率の燃焼度変化を第3回に示す。この図において、サイクル毎に炉心 全流量を開整する方法によれば、反応度の増大に 対するスペクトルシフトの効果に損失が生じる。

本発明では、このスペクトルジフト効果の損失

本発明の機料集合体(第1図)では、水ロッドが上部タイプレート及び下部タイプレート(燃料支持部)を貫通しており、常時、下部タイプレート上のパネカによって上方向に押し上げる力を受けている。一方、ホロッドの上輪部は、第6回に示すように、十字型の切り込みを入れてある。又、上部タイプレートにおける水ロッド貫通部は、第6回に示すように、共通孔の直径に沿ってパーが

燃料集合体に洗入する冷却水流量を要化させた 状態を弱ら週に示す。

第5回の(1)は、残い切り込みと水ロッド貫通部のバーを増み合わせ、流入冷却水流量を低下させた場合、第5回の(2)は、柔い切り込みと

に利用するのがスペクトルシフト運転である。こ の反応変効果は、高いポイド率での運転期間に比 別して増大する。

従来の洗量制御によるスペクトルシフト選転では、サイクル毎に冷却水流量を増減させるため、 高いポイド率での運転期間が低下し、スペクトル シフト効果に損失が育つたが、本発明によれば、 各集1.体毎にスペクトルシフト連転ができるため スペクトルシフト効果を最大限に利用することが できる。

#### 層面の簡単な説明

水口ジド貫通郎のパーを噛み合わせ、洗人冷却水 流量を増加させた場合である。

第6個は、水ロジド上端部と上部タイプレートにおける水ロジド貫通部の説明圏であり、2は水ロジド、11は上部タイプレート、13は洗い切り込み、15は水ロジド貫送等、16はパーである。

水ロッドは、径方向に回転可能であり、水ロッド ぎ貫通部と噛み合う切り込みの様さは、水ロッド を上方向から下へ押し込んだ後に90°回転する ことにより変更することができる。

#### (発明の効果)

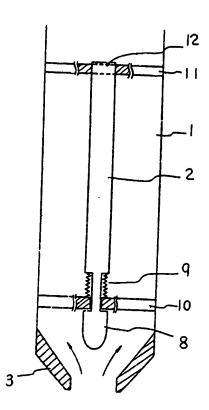
本発明によれば、軽水冷却型成子炉において、 炉心内に装荷された機料集合体を取り出すことな く、燃料等周囲の冷却水の流れる流路での冷却水 流量を開墾可能とする水口ツドを設けることによ り、以下の効果を有する。

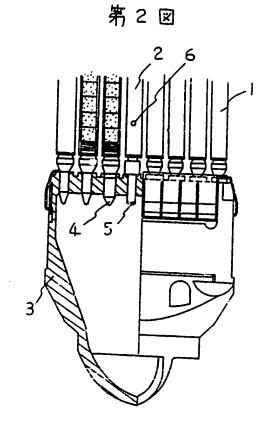
燃料集合体を高いポイド率で運転すると中性子 スペクトルが硬化し、プルトニウムの智費が多く なる。この書種したプルトニウムを燃焼度の末期

1 … 燃料様、2 … 水ロツド、3 … 下部タイプレート、4 … 燃料棒下部場合、5 … 水ロツド下部場合、6 … 水ロツド 2 の冷却水流入口、7 … 水ロツド 2 の冷却水出口、8 … 減量欝整部、9 … パネ、1 0 … 燃料支持部、1 1 … 上部タイプレート、1 2 … 水ロツド煙定部、1 3 … 後い切り込み、1 4 … 深い切り込み、1 4 … 深い切り込み、1 5 … 水口ツド貫道部、1 6 … パー、

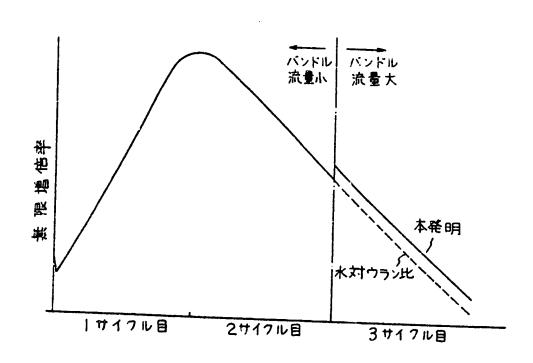
代理人 弁理士 小川野男 🚶

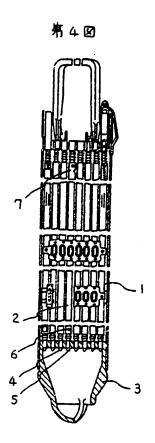
-- 1444 --

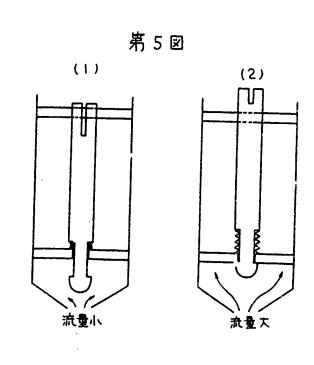




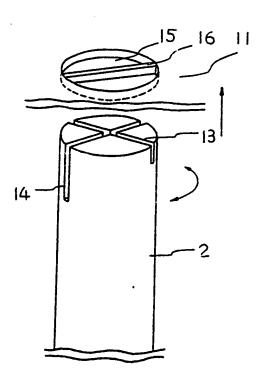
第3図











Japanese Kokai Patent Application No. Sho 61[1986]-256282

PTO 98-4352

FUEL ASSEMBLY
[Nenryo Shugotai]

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC SEPTEMBER 28, 1998
TRANSLATED BY THE RALPH MCELROY TRANSLATION COMPANY

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# JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE PATENT JOURNAL

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FUEL ASSEMBLY
[Nenryo Shugotai]

Inventor:

Sadayuki Ito

Applicant:

Hitachi, Ltd.

[There are no amendments to this patent.]

#### Claims

- 1. A fuel assembly characterized by the fact that in a fuel assembly for a light water cooling atomic reactor having water rods, the water rods, which can adjust the coolant flux in a flow passage, in which a coolant flows, around fuel rods without extracting the fuel assembly charged into the reactor core from the reactor core are installed.
- 2. The fuel assembly of Claim 1 characterized by the fact that as a method for adjusting the coolant flux, conical flux adjustment parts of the lower ends of the water rods are installed; that the water rods and the flux adjustment parts are connected through springs and lower fuel support members; that cross shaped groove parts with different depths are installed at the upper parts of the water rods; that the above mentioned water rods and the flux adjustment parts are vertically moved, so that the coolant flux is adjusted.

# Detailed explanation of the invention

## Industrial application field

The present invention pertains to a light water cooling atomic reactor fuel assembly and in particular, a fuel assemble suitable for the improvement of the economical efficiency of a fuel by changing the ratio of liquid to vapor in a coolant flow passage part at the first half stage and the second half stage of the fuel combustion by adjusting the coolant flux of the coolant flow passage part.

#### Background of the invention

Figure 4 is an illustrative diagram showing the entire constitution of a conventional fuel assembly for a boiling water atomic reactor. Figure 2 is a cut cross section showing the lower main parts. 1 is a fuel rod. 2 is a water rod. 3 is a lower tie plate. 4 is a lower end plug of the fuel rod. 5 is a lower end plug of the water rod. 6 is a coolant flow inlet of the water rod 2. 7 is a coolant outlet of the water rod 2. The fuel rod 1 and the water rod 2 are respectively supported by the lower tie plate 3 through the lower end plug 4 of the fuel rod and the lower end plug 5 of the water rod.

The coolant flow inlet 6 and the coolant flow outlet 7 of the water rod 2 of the fuel assembly are constituted by holes with such a size that the coolant flows to a degree that vapor voids are not generated in the water rod 2.

Such a boiling water atomic reactor is mentioned below as an example. In the output distribution in the axial direction, since the void rate (volume ratio occupied by vapor) increases toward the top, the thermalization of neutrons at the lower part of a reactor core is greater (since the void rate is lower and the neutrons are slowed to a great extent), compared with the upper part of the reactor core, and the output peak is distorted to the lower part of the reactor core. Also, within the cross section of the reactor core, in the output distribution, owing to moderation of a bypass part, thermal neutron density increases near the fuel assembly. For this reason, the output peak is generated in the fuel rod near the fuel assembly.

In the current reactor core design, in terms of securement of fuel soundness and improvement of the plant utilization rate,

a design for lowering the output peak as much as possible in the fuel assembly is being researched. In order to suppress the output peak near the fuel assembly, it is necessary to raise the output in the central part. Without charging fuel in the central part of the fuel assembly, the rods, through which only the moderator passes, that is, the water rods are used.

As a result of recent fuel technique developments, as a PCI (fuel-cladding tube interaction) measure such as barrier fuel has been developed, output distribution flatness in the fuel assembly is not now required, and linear output density can be raised into the range where the soundness of the fuel can be maintained. In such a reactor core, new reactor core designs are considered.

As one of them, a spectral shift operation is considered. In this operation, the ratio of vapor void rate in the reactor core is increased, or the ratio of the coolant is decreased, so that the slow-down of neutrons due to the moderator (in the light water cooling atomic reactor, light water is utilized as a coolant and a moderator) is weakened thereby hardening the energy spectra of the neutrons (increasing the ratio of high energy neutron flux). As a result, the absorption reaction of the high energy neutrons is increased. Thus, plutonium generation due to high energy neutrons is increased, and the economical efficiency of the fuel can be improved by burning the plutonium.

As a means for changing the vapor void rate and the coolant ratio, a method that increases and decreases the total reactor core flux and a method that inserts a filler into the water rods or bypass area are considered.

A pressurized water atomic reactor is mentioned below as an example. A water discharge rod for discharging a coolant without including a high neutron absorber is adopted in a control rod. In

the pressurized water reactor, the control rod for discharging water is inserted into the reactor core at the initial stage of combustion, and the ratio of water to uranium is reduced, so that the amount of plutonium being generated is raised by the spectral shift effect. During the second half of the combustion cycle, the control rod is extracted from the reactor core, and the ratio of water to uranium is increased so that reactivity is raised.

Also, in the method for operating the atomic reactor utilizing the spectral shift of neutrons by increasing the ratio of vapor voids in the reactor core, the vapor voids in the water rods in the fuel assembly are filled at the initial stage of the fuel combustion, and the accumulation of plutonium is increased by a spectral hardening of the neutrons. During the second half stage of the combustion cycle, the coolant is filled into the above mentioned water rods, and the reactivity is increased. Furthermore, in the fuel assembly for an atomic reactor including at least one water rod, through which the coolant can pass, the flux adjustment part, which can adjust the amount of vapor void being generated by adjusting the inflow amount of said coolant by the above mentioned water rods, is furnished.

In a boiling water atomic reactor, voids are generated during the operation of the atomic reactor, and in a fuel assembly operated at a high void rate, the neutron spectra are more hardened that those of a fuel assembly operated at a low void rate, so that the accumulation of plutonium is increased. The effect is increased in proportion to the combustion period at a high void rate.

In the above mentioned reactors, the vapor void rate in the water rod, which is one of the constituent materials of the fuel assembly, at the initial stage of fuel combustion is increased,

so that the accumulation of plutonium is increased. During the second half stage of the combustion, the void rate is made zero, and neutron moderation is increased, so that the reactivity is increased along with the accumulation effect of plutonium. Thereby, the fuel assembly can increase the degree of fuel combustion.

As mentioned above, as the invention utilizing the spectral shift of the neutrons by changing the void rate in the reactor core, there is a method that increases and decreases the total flux, a method that discharges water of the bypass area, and a method that changes the flux of the water rods. However, there is no method that changes the coolant flux of the fuel flow passage, which is a flow passage of the coolant near the fuel rods in a fuel assembly unit.

### Objective of the invention

The objective of the present invention is to provide a fuel assembly that improves the economical efficiency of a fuel by increasing the neutron spectral shift effect by installing water rods that can adjust the coolant flux in a flow passage, in which a coolant flows, near fuel rods without extracting the fuel assembly charged into a reactor core in a light water cooling type atomic reactor.

### Outline of the invention

The boiling water atomic reactor mentioned below as an example. Voids are generated during the atomic reactor operation, and for this reason, the slow down effect of a moderator is

lowered, so that neutron spectra are hardened. Therefore, in a fuel assembly operated at a high void rate, the neutron spectra are hardened, compared with a fuel assembly operated at a low void rate, and the absorption reaction of high energy neutrons is increased. As a result, the accumulation of plutonium is increased. The accumulation is increased in proportion to the combustion period at a high void rate.

Accordingly, during the charge period of the fuel assembly into the reactor, during the first halfof the cycle, the increase of plutonium generation is promoted by burning at a high void rate, and during the second half of the cycle, the void rate is lowered. Thus, utilizing the contribution to the reactivity by the plutonium generated, the reactivity of the atomic reactor is raised and the degree of combustion is increased. This is the neutron spectral shift effect.

In order to increase the reactivity by the spectral shift effect, the void rate is increased by decreasing the flux during the first half of the operation cycle, and the void rate is decreased by increasing the flux during the second half of the operation cycle. According to the conventional method, for each fuel assembly, since the void rate is decreased during the second half of the operation cycle of the entire reactor core residence period, the generation efficiency of plutonium is lowered.

Figure 3 shows a change in the degree of combustion of an infinite multiplication factor signifying reactivity. In the figure, using the method that adjusts the total reactor core flux per cycle, a loss is caused in the effect of the spectral shift to the increase of reactivity.

In the present invention, in order to remove the loss of the spectral shift effect, a method, which can adjust the coolant

flux at each fuel assembly unit, is given.

Application example of the invention

The application example of the present invention is shown below.

Figure 1 shows an entire constitution (conceptual diagram) of the fuel assembly of the present invention. In Figure 1, 1 is a flow passage in which a coolant flows and fuel rods exist. 2 is a water rod of the present invention. 3 is a lower tie plate. 8 is a flux adjustment part installed on the water rod, which adjusts the coolant flux flowing in the fuel assembly. 9 is a spring for giving an elastic force to press the water rod against an upper tie plate. 10 is the fuel support part of the lower tie plate. 11 is an upper tie plate. 12 is a water rod fixing part for fixing the water rod at the upper tie plate.

In the conventional fuel assembly (Figure 4), the coolant introduced into the lower tie plate of the fuel assembly always flows through a fixed size flow passage near the fuel rod. For this reason, the neutron spectral shift operation by adjustment of the coolant flux is carried out by changing the total reactor core flux. Since the total reactor core flux is generally changed by decreasing the flux during the first half of the cycle and increasing the flux during the second half of the cycle, a loss is caused in the plutonium conversion efficiency of each fuel assembly. The purpose of the present invention is to offer a method that adjusts the coolant flux for each fuel assembly to remove the loss in the plutonium conversion rate. The fuel assembly remains for several cycles in the reactor core, and recent boiling water atomic reactors are designed so that the

fuel assembly is not moved by shuffling, if possible. For this reason, it is necessary for the method for adjusting the coolant flux for each fuel assembly to operate in a state, in which the fuel assembly is charged into the reactor core, from the upper part of the reactor core during periodic inspection.

In the fuel assembly (Figure 1) of the present invention, the water rods penetrate into the upper tie plate and the lower tie plate (fuel support parts) and always receive an upward force from the spring force on the lower tie plate. On the other hand, cross shaped cuts are inserted into the upper ends of the water rods as shown in Figure 6. Also, a bar is fixed to the water rod penetration part in the upper tie plate, as shown in Figure 6, along the diameter of a hole. The depth of the cross shaped cut in the upper end of the water rod varies per 90° direction. When shallow cut and the bar of the water rod penetration part are meshed, the water rod is fixed at a position lower than the tie plate and the flux adjustment part installed at the lower end of the water rod narrows the flow passage of the coolant flow inlet of the lower tie plate. Pressure loss is increased, thereby decreasing the coolant flux flowing in the fuel assembly. Also, when the deep cut and the bar of the water rod penetration part are meshed, the water rod is fixed at the position higher than the tie plate and the flux adjustment part installed at the lower end of the water rod widens the flow passage of the coolant flow inlet of the lower tie plate. Pressure loss is reduced, thereby increasing the coolant flux flowing in the fuel assembly.

Figure 5 shows states in which the coolant flux flowing in the fuel assembly varies.

Figure 5(1) shows the case where the shallow cut and the bar of the water rod penetration part are meshed and the inflow

coolant flux is decreased. Figure 5(2) shows the case where the deep cut and the bar of the water rod penetration part are meshed and the inflow coolant flux is increased.

Figure 6 is an illustrative diagram showing the water rod penetration part in the upper end of the water rod and the upper tie plate. 2 is a water rod. 11 is an upper tie plate. 13 is a shallow cut. 14 is a deep cut. 15 is a water rod penetration part. 16 is a bar.

The water rod can rotate in the diameter direction, and the depth of the cut, which meshes with the water rod penetration part, can be changed by rotating 90° after pressing the water rod from the upper direction to the lower direction.

### Effect of the invention

According to the present invention, in the light water cooling atomic reactor, water rods, which can adjust the coolant flux in the flow passage, in which the coolant flows, near the fuel rods without extracting the fuel assembly charged into the reactor core, are installed. Thus, the following effects are exerted.

If the fuel assembly is operated at a high void rate, the neutron spectra are hardened, and the accumulation of plutonium is increased. In the spectral shift operation, the plutonium accumulated is utilized in the end stage of combustion. The reactivity effect increases in proportion to the operation period at high void rate.

In the spectral shift operation by conventional flux control, since the coolant flux is increased and decreased per cycle, the operation period at high void rate is decreased, and a

loss is caused in the spectral shift effect. However, in the present invention, since spectral shift operation is possible for each fuel assembly, the spectral shift effect can be utilized at maximum.

### Brief description of the figures

Figure 1 is an illustrative diagram (conceptual diagram) showing the entire constitution of the fuel assembly of an application example of the present invention. Figure 2 is a cut cross section showing the lower main parts of Figure 1. Figure 3 is a characteristic diagram showing the effect of the present invention (change in the degree of combustion of the infinite multiplication factor). Figure 4 is an illustrative diagram showing the entire constitution of a conventional fuel assembly for a boiling water atomic reactor. Figure 5 is a principle diagram showing the coolant flux adjustment in an application example of the present invention. Figure 6 is an illustrative diagram showing the upper end of a water rod and a water rod penetration part.

- 1 Fuel rod
- 2 Water rod
- 3 Lower tie plate
- 4 Lower end plug of the fuel rod
- 5 Lower end plug of the water rod
- 6 Coolant flow inlet of water rod 2
- 7 Coolant outlet of water rod 2
- 8 Flux adjustment part
- 9 Spring
- 10 Fuel support part

- 11 Upper tie plate
- 12 Water rod fixing part
- 13 Shallow cut
- 14 Deep cut
- 15 Water rod penetration part
- 16 Bar

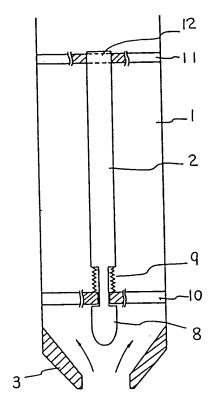


Figure 1

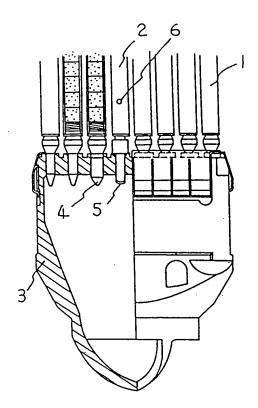
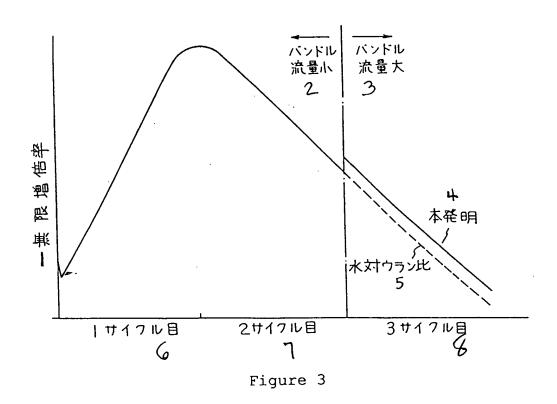


Figure 2

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During the third cycle

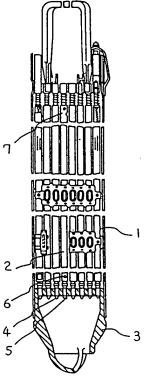


Figure 4

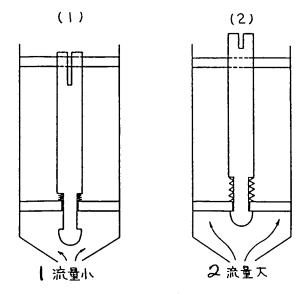


Figure 5

Key: 1 Low flow rate
2 High flow rate

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